

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT DON FINK, RECIPIENT OF TEXAS' THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2021 CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 2021

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, it is my privilege to honor fifteen distinguished military veterans from Texas' Third Congressional District who answered the call to serve their Nation honorably, both in uniform and following their return to civilian life. The recipients of the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation exemplify the timehonored qualities of patriotism, service before self, and bold leadership. Following their time in service, their efforts in our community have earned these fine individuals recognition as the recipients of this prestigious commendation. Their stories of sacrifice will encourage future generations to pursue a life dedicated to the very values we cherish as Americans: faith, freedom, and democracy. One such hero is Sergeant Don Fink of Frisco, Texas.

Born in Chicago, Illinois, Don Fink moved to Texas early in life where he graduated from Richardson High School. From a young age, Don's father, a World War II veteran, instilled in him a keen awareness that our country's freedoms were at risk. In 1968, a 20-year-old Fink would enlist as an Infantryman in the U.S. Army. He was assigned to Chu Lai, Vietnam where his contributions in building the strategically important LZ Maryanne would ultimately keep the enemy from advancing on American troops and in due course save thousands of soldiers' lives.

Sergeant Fink's awards include a Bronze Star, Army Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Overseas Service Bar, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Army Sharpshooter Marksmanship Badge, Expert Marksmanship Medal, and Combat Infantry Badge.

Upon his return to civilian life, Don would begin employment with United Parcel Service (UPS) where he would eventually manage several statewide regional centers. After graduating from the University of Texas at Arlington, Don would establish his own successful staffing and recruiting business.

Today, Don has become known as a widely respected and beloved advocate on behalf of our veterans. As an active member of the Frisco Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 8273 he is deeply admired as the current Chaplain. In addition to attending funerals, tending to the sick and needy, as well as those in crisis, Don has been known to personally drive veterans to service officer appointments for benefits counseling. As the proud father of two children and two grandchildren, Don currently resides in Frisco with

his beloved dog, Bella. Sergeant Don Fink is a stranger to none and continues to exemplify the spirit of this award through his willingness to help those in need.

Today a grateful Nation thanks Sergeant Fink for his exceptional service and congratulates him on this recognition. May his steadfast example of leadership inspire others to live a life of service to a cause greater than themselves. It is my extreme honor to award him the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation for the Third District of Texas.

DALTON DAVEY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dalton Davey also known as Dr. Derpster of Northglenn, Colorado for receiving the City of Northglenn Young Entrepreneur Award.

The Young Entrepreneur Award is given to a Northglenn student that has displayed entrepreneurial prowess and has stood out amongst their peers. This year's award goes to the YouTuber, Dr. Derpster. This young man has brought joy to hundreds of subscribers each week as he plays many of the most popular video games. This knack for entertainment is impressive, and I encourage him to continue to bring joy to people in all aspects of his life.

Dr. Derpster represents some of the brightest youths that Northglenn has to offer. It is a testament to the schools in our community for fostering such a comprehensive learning environment. I wish him nothing but the best in the future and congratulate him on winning this award.

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF HUEBER BREUER

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 2021

Mr. KATKO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 150th Anniversary of Hueber Breuer, a legacy construction firm in Central New York that has developed and built some of the most impactful projects in the region.

Since its founding in 1872, Hueber Breuer has remained a family-run business and is currently led by its fifth and sixth generations. Today, it is the largest, continuously operating, family-owned construction and contracting firm in Central New York.

In its 150 years of operation, Hueber Breuer has played a key role in developing the City

of Syracuse and Central New York. The company has helped build and restore many of the landmarks that define our skylines, such as the Landmark Theater, the Franklin Center, the Samaritan Center, and the Exposition Center at the New York State Fairgrounds. For the firm's stellar work, Hueber Breuer has received numerous awards including the Associated General Contractors of New York Safety Award, the American General Contractors Build New York Award, and the Preservation Association of Central New York Award of Merit.

Aside from its construction projects, Hueber Breuer also aims to revitalize Central New York through philanthropic endeavors. These endeavors include an annual Community Volunteer Day, in which the company's employees volunteer for charitable organizations in the region.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House to join me in recognizing the upcoming 150th Anniversary of Hueber Breuer. Since its founding, the company has made tremendous contributions on Central New York through its visionary construction projects and dedication to the community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MICHAEL COLLINS

HON. CARLOS A. GIMENEZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 2021

Mr. GIMENEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Michael Collins. His unwavering sense of conviction and outstanding public service to his community earned him respect and admiration from those who knew him and anyone he crossed paths with.

The state of Florida recognizes his success as the champion of the Greater Everglades ecosystem from Orlando to the Keys. His leadership on the South Florida Water Management Board for over a decade has tangibly benefited the lives of tens-of-millions Floridians. His advocacy for Florida Bay, Lake Okeechobee as well as the Upper Chain of Lakes was heard and acted upon.

Michael Collins had the unique ability to unite various stakeholders to implement consensus solutions to complex water resource issues. He was the father of the creation of the Water Resource Advisory Commission to carry out this mission. His grand contributions cannot be measured. He was always attentive to his community and gave it his all.

Michael Collins will be remembered for his lifelong contributions and dedication to Florida's water resources. Captain Mike will be missed at the helm, however, his "troops" will carry on the mission. It's an honor to commemorate a man of this stature and integrity. Michael Collins will be profoundly missed.

God bless.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 2021

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 338.

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT WILLIAM "BILL" HENRY, RECIPIENT OF TEXAS' THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2021 CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 2021

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, it is my privilege to honor fifteen distinguished military veterans from Texas' Third Congressional District who answered the call to serve their Nation honorably, both in uniform and following their return to civilian life. The recipients of the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation exemplify the time-honored qualities of patriotism, service before self, and bold leadership. Following their time in service, their efforts in our community have earned these fine individuals recognition as the recipients of this prestigious commendation. Their stories of sacrifice will encourage future generations to pursue a life dedicated to the very values we cherish as Americans: faith, freedom, and democracy. One such hero is Sergeant William "Bill" Henry of Wylie, Texas.

Drafted into the U.S. Army in 1952, Bill Henry was trained as a Combat Radio Relay Operator. While stationed in Korea, Sergeant Henry controlled an Artillery Battery, radioing coordinates for artillery shells to be discharged at enemy targets. Bill ended his active duty service in 1954, but would complete eight years in the Army Reserves prior to his final discharge. Sergeant Henry credits his time on the front lines with preparing him for a successful career in electronics and computers following the war.

For his service, Sergeant Henry was awarded the Korean Service Medal, two Bronze Stars, United Nations Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Sharpshooter Badge, and Good Conduct Medal.

Following his time in service, Bill returned home and married the love of his life, the late Jane Donovan Henry. Together they raised six children. Bill's commitment to his community is evidenced by his 72-year tenure in the Knights of Columbus where he has held almost every single office including that of Grand Knight. Bill maintains a deep passion for supporting our veterans and he has done so through the Wheelchair Mission which supplies wheelchairs to our veterans at the VA Medical Centers in Bonham and Dallas, Texas. Additionally, Sergeant Henry was instrumental in establishing the American Legion Hale-Combest Post 315 in Wylie where he held the position of Judge Advocate.

Even at 91 years old, Mr. Henry has not slowed his efforts to serve his community. Love of God, family, and country, and a life dedicated to service sum up the character of

Sergeant Henry whom we applaud for his longtime commitment to America and our community.

Today a grateful Nation thanks Sergeant Henry, for his exceptional service and congratulates him on this recognition. May his steadfast example of leadership inspire others to live a life of service to a cause greater than themselves. It is my extreme honor to award him the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation for the Third District of Texas.

RECOGNIZING THE VETERANS AIRLIFT COMMAND

HON. JAY OBERNOLTE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 2021

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding service of the Veteran Airlift Command, an organization which I've volunteered with for many years that has a dedicated network of volunteers working to support our nation's wounded warriors across the country.

The Veteran Airlift Command, founded by Vietnam War veteran Walter Fricke, has impacted the lives of countless wounded veterans by providing them and their families air transportation when they desperately need it. After being wounded while serving as a helicopter pilot in Vietnam, Walter, like countless other wounded veterans, had to face the challenges presented by everyday civilian life. He realized that despite commercial air travel constituting one of the most essential aspects of modern life, it was among the most inaccessible, especially for our wounded veterans.

As a military trained pilot with over 800 hours of combat flying, Walter was well equipped to remedy this issue. He had an idea for a national organization of volunteer pilots and aircraft that would fly wounded warriors and their families with dignity, respect, and gratitude, and so in 2006 he founded the Veteran Airlift Command.

Walter started the Veterans Airlift Command with his own personal finances, flying expertise, and aircraft, but today the Veterans Airlift Command has grown into substantial program that boasts a volunteer core of over 2,600 volunteer pilots and aircraft with over 18,000 passengers successfully flown.

The VAC has been and will continue to be an incredible and essential lifeline for wounded veterans and their families. Thanks to their work and that of thousands of volunteer pilots across the country, we can give back to our nation's wounded warriors and provide the dignity, respect, and comfort that our heroes deserve. I am honored to recognize the VAC today and proud to have the opportunity to volunteer with this organization and give back to those who have sacrificed part of themselves in the defense of this Nation.

FIT THEOREM

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fit Theorem of Northglenn,

Colorado for earning the City of Northglenn's People's Choice Award.

The People's Choice Award recognizes a Northglenn business for their customer service and customer satisfaction within the community. Fit Theorem is known for being one of Colorado's premier kickboxing studios. Their mission is to improve the lives of clients by making them healthier in both mind and body. With several locations across the state and country, Northglenn is lucky to have one of their studios in our community. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the team at Fit Theorem moved many of their classes on line and continue to bring fitness and fun to people during a difficult time.

Congratulations again to Fit Theorem for this accomplishment, and I wish them all the best in the future. I thank them for their contribution to our community.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF PASTOR JEREMY DAVID SMITH

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 2021

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Pastor Jeremy David Smith. Jeremy spent over 20 years as a leader and minister in local churches. He strove to create a family environment that shared both the challenging and celebratory times with the members of the church.

Pastor Jeremy was devout to his congregation and he was dedicated to continue Sunday Worship throughout the pandemic. He held outside services and worked to ensure the safe and comfortable experience for all members of the church, especially caring for the older members so they would be able to attend, experience, and hear the Word of God, no matter what.

David is survived by his wife, Audra Smith; children, Nicholas, Logan, Katiana, Kalista, and Korinna Smith. Madam. Speaker, I ask that you extend your thoughts and prayers to Jeremy's family and friends as they mourn the loss of their loved one. I pray that God is with Jeremy's family and friends during this difficult time.

IN RECOGNITION OF LARKIN V. "PETE" BOWEN'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. NEAL P. DUNN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 2021

Mr. DUNN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a member of our Greatest Generation and Florida's Second Congressional District, Larkin V. "Pete" Bowen of Marianna, Florida.

Born October 24, 1921, Mr. Bowen moved to Wewahatchka, Florida with his family in 1941 to build a new life.

Like so many in the Panhandle during that time, he found work anywhere he could.

In 1943, Mr. Bowen started working for the State Road Department, now the Florida Department of Transportation, in Jackson County as a road crew guard.